

This report contains the following 1 ideas:

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— Tracing Layer-2 route in networks based on broadcast medium Sailaja S K Attili (sattili),Sridhar Aswathnarayan (saswathn)

04-SEP- 24-APR-

Report generated: Wed 11-Aug-

EXHIBIT A (REDACTED)

C I S C O C O N F I D E N T I A L

### Tracing Layer-2 route in networks based on broadcast medium

CPOL No.: 92821 Seq No.: 3484 Status: Pending Submitted: [REDACTED] Modified: 20-Jul-2004

Docket: CSCO-007 Origin: Cisco Type: Regular

#### US Filing & Issuance Info

Name: Thappeta	Filed: 02-Apr-2001	Serial No.: 09/824,844	Application: Yes
Assigned: 16-Jan-2001	Allowed: —		Assignments: Yes
Drafter: Naren Thappeta	Issued: —	Patent No.: —	Req Non-Pub: Yes

**History:** [REDACTED] Rec'd App. filed 4/2/01. Filing Receipt rec'd 6/14/01. IDS filed 7/16/01. OA mailed 6/18/04; Response due

**Abstract:** Tracing the layer-2 devices present between any two systems in a network implemented using broadcast medium. A device (receiving device) receives a command including a source and destination system identifiers. If the receiving device is not connected directly to the source system, the receiving device determines a connecting device connecting directly to the source system. The receiving system sends a request packet to the connecting device and receives a response packet. The response packet either indicates that the sending device is directly connected to the destination system or indicates a next device in the connecting path. The request and response sequence is continued until a sending device indicates that the destination system is connected directly.

29-Mar- 02-Apr- 18-Jun- Yes Rec'd original Recordation and original Assignment for sattili.

PAGE 32/34 \* RCVD AT 9/14/2004 9:29:12 AM [Eastern Daylight Time] \* SVR:USPTO-EFXRF-1/0 \* DNIS:8729306 \* CSID:Naren Thappeta, Esq. \* DURATION (mm:ss):17-56